

Message Text

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22

ACTION EUR-12

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IO-11 (ISO) W

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R 041540Z MAR 76

FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2821

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

HQUSEUCOM VAIHINGEN

HQUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

UNCLAS STUTTGART 312

FOR POLADS

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR GW XG

SUBJ: CDU/CSU CHANCELLOR CANDIDATE KHOL PRESS CONFERENCE IN
STUTTGART

1. SUMMARY: CDU/CSU CHANCELLOR CANDIDATE KHOL REPEATED AT STUTTGART PRESS CONFERENCE ON MARCH 4 CDU CANNOT AGREE TO POLISH TREATIES IN "PRESENT FORM". HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT ONGOING DEVELOPMENTS COULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR CDU TO FINALLY AGREE. HE OPTED NOT TO DISCUSS DETAILS SINCE MATTER NOT YET CONSIDERED AT STUTTGART MEETING OF CDU NATIONAL LEADERSHIP. KOHL ALSO PREFERRED NOT TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT PRIVATE TALKS ON COALITION MATTERS, BUT POINTED OUT, LIKE BERLIN CDU FACTION CHIEF HEINRICH LUMMER, THAT IN LONG RUN
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IT IS A DISASTER TO EXCLUDE STRONGEST PARTY (READ CDU/CSU)

FROM GOVERNMENT. KOHL CONSIDERED A GRAND COALITION OR ALL-PARTY COALITION ONLY GOOD FOR EMERGENCIES. KOHL ALSO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER REJECTION USE OF WORD DETENTE BY PRESIDENT FORD WHO, LIKE ALL AMERICANS AND GERMANS, HAD COME TO A REALISTIC ASSESSMENT OF WORLD SITUATION. FOLLOW-UP PRESS CONFERENCE SET FOR MONDAY, MARCH 8. END SUMMARY.

2. AT BEGINNING OF CDU PRAESIDIUM AND BUNDESAUSSCHUSS MEETING IN STUTTGART, BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG CDU HELD BRIEF PRESS CONFERENCE WITH CDU/CSU CHANCELLOR CANDIDATE HELMUT KOHL. PRESS CONFERENCE ALSO SET FOR MONDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 8, TO ANNOUNCE RESULTS OF STUTTGART MEETING OF CDU NATIONAL LEADERSHIP.

3. POLISH TREATIES: KOHL REPEATED THAT CDU WILL NOT APPROVE TREATIES IN "PRESENT FORM". CENTRAL CDU QUESTIONS STILL ARE WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO GERMANS IN POLAND IN EXCESS OF 125,000 EMIGREES ALREADY AGREED TO AND WHAT MEANS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW EXISTED TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL GERMANS LIVING IN POLAND WHO WISH TO COME TO GERMANY WOULD GET PERMISSION TO DO SO, INCLUDING NOT ONLY AGED, BUT ALSO THEIR CHILDREN AND GRAND-CHILDREN. MUCH GOING ON THESE DAYS TO FIND A SOLUTION TO WHICH CDU COULD ALSO AGREE. KOHL SAID CDU HAD NO DIRECT CONTACTS WITH POLISH GOVERNMENT.

4. WORLD SITUATION. KOHL SAID HE SOMETIMES WONDERED WHAT REMAINED OF SPIRIT OF HELSINKI, SINCE SOVIET UNION HAD DEMONSTRATED ITS WILL TO INCREASE ARMAMENT EFFORTS. ANGOLA ALSO REPRESENTED SERIOUS THREAT TO WORLD PEACE. PRESIDENT FORD'S REJECTION OF WORD DETENTE SHOWED THAT HE - LIKE OTHER LEADERS IN THE FREE WORLD - COULD NOT DISREGARD THIS DEVELOPMENT. AMERICANS RECOGNIZED NOW THAT THEY HAD TO SAY : SO FAR AND NO FARTHER ("BIS HIERHER UND NICHT WEITER*"). KOHL SAID HE HOPED THAT NOW TIME HAD COME WHEN ALL AMERICANS AND GERMANS VIEW SITUATION MORE REALISTICALLY. THEREFORE, HE ALSO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER PRESIDENT FORD'S "RETURN TO A CLEAR LANGUAGE".

5. KOHL CALLED IT A "DESTRUCTION OF CULTURE" THAT PRIVATE TALKS AMONG SOME POLITICIANS (WITH OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO UNCLASSIFIED

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FEDERAL PRESIDENT SCHEEL'S PRIVATE COMMENTS) HAD NOW INDISCREETLY BEEN PUBLISHED. HE HAD NOT TAKEN PART IN THOSE TALKS, AND HE REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THEM. HOWEVER, HE AND HEINRICH LUMMER, BERLIN CDU FACTION CHAIRMAN, STATED THAT IN LONG RUN IT WAS A DISASTER TO EXCLUDE STRONGEST PARTY FROM GOVERNMENT. THIS WAS ESPECIALLY TRUE IN BERLIN, WHERE SPD HAD LOST 20 PERCENT OF ITS VOTES SINCE 1963. KOHL SAID, HOWEVER, THAT A GRAND COALITION OR AN ALL-PARTY-GOVERNMENT

SHOULD ONLY BE FORMED IN TIMES OF EMERGENCY AND ONLY FOR
LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME. HE REJECTED STATEMENT RECENTLY MADE
BY FOEIGN OFFICE STATE SECRETARY MOERSCH (FDP) THAT CDU
WOULD WANT TO INTRODUCE MAJORITY ELECTION LAW IN CASE OF
ELECTION VICTORY. HE THOUGHT PRESENT ELECTION LAW WAS JUST
RIGHT. JENKINS

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